

-REMARKS-

The Examiner identified ten distinct species that are alleged to be patentably distinct. The following ten species were identified: Species 1 comprising Figure 1; Species 2 comprising Figure 2b; Species 3 comprising Figures 3a and 3b; Species 4 comprising Figure 3c; Species 5 comprising Figure 4; Species 6 comprising Figures 5a, 5b and 5c; Species 7 comprising Figure 6a; Species 8 comprising Figure 6b; Species 9 comprising Figure 7; and Species 10 comprising Figure 8.

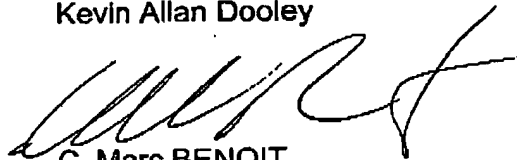
The Applicant believes that all ten species alleged by the Examiner are directed to the same invention and that only alternative embodiments of the same invention are disclosed in the Figures and the Specification.

However, since the Applicant must elect one species, species of embodiment 1 (Figure 1), is hereby provisionally elected with traverse. The Applicant believes that at least claims 1 to 19 read thereon. Claims 20 to 23 are provisionally withdrawn. This is not an admission that the Applicant agrees with the Examiner's finding that the ten identified species do not have at least one common inventive feature and this election is therefore provisional.

Respectfully submitted,

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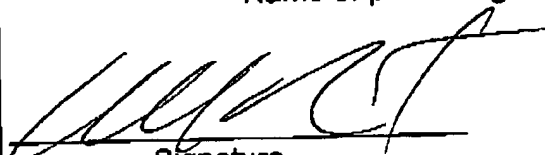
Serial No. 10/724,148
Response to Office Action of July 24, 2006

Agent's Ref. 2993-526US
Response dated Sept 25, 2006

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